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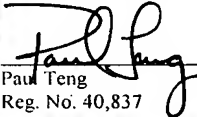
THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Masakazu MURANAKA et al.

Serial No.: 10/537,368

Date Filed: June 2, 2005

For: INK CARTRIDGE, HOUSING THEREFORE, INK BAG, INK-JET
RECORDING APPARATUS, INK CONTAINER, AND IMAGE-
FORMING APPARATUS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
 Paul Teng Reg. No. 40,837	October 9, 2006 Date

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to the applicant's duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner.

It is respectfully requested that the information cited in annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, and that such art be made of record in said application.

The reference listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 was cited in an August 1, 2006 official action in connection with a corresponding Japanese application. A copy of the August 1, 2006 official action is enclosed.

The citation of the listed item is not a representation that it constitutes a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the item is prior art. The item listed is submitted in good faith, but is not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of the particular item, it will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

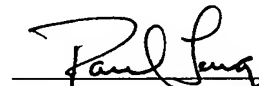
The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3). To the best of Applicant's knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this case.

Alternatively, Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1). Each item of information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 was cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior hereto.

The Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees that are required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,



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